



The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 8 December 1967



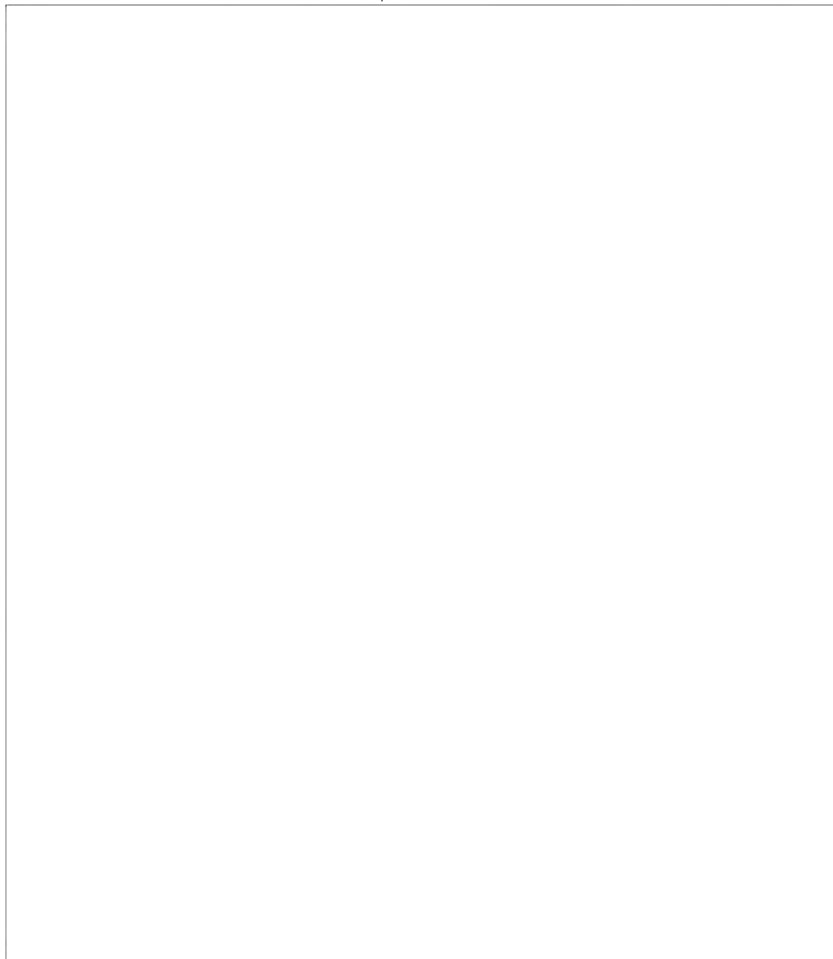
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DAILY BRIEF
8 DECEMBER 1967

1. South Vietnam

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2. France

The arms deal with Iraq that the press is talking about could be part of a grand scheme to get Mirage fighters, which are said to be included, to Jordan.

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3. Cyprus

The Turks are not amused by Makarios' diplomatic maneuverings, which they see as attempts to wriggle out of the recent agreement. Ankara is especially insistent that the UN force somehow be allowed to monitor the withdrawal of Greek troops, scheduled to begin today.

The Turks also insist they still have a fundamental right to intervene on the island, and say they will do so if there are any more incidents like the one that touched off this crisis. The special Turkish invasion force, still concentrated along Turkey's south coast, gives spine to these words.

4. Yemen

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5. India

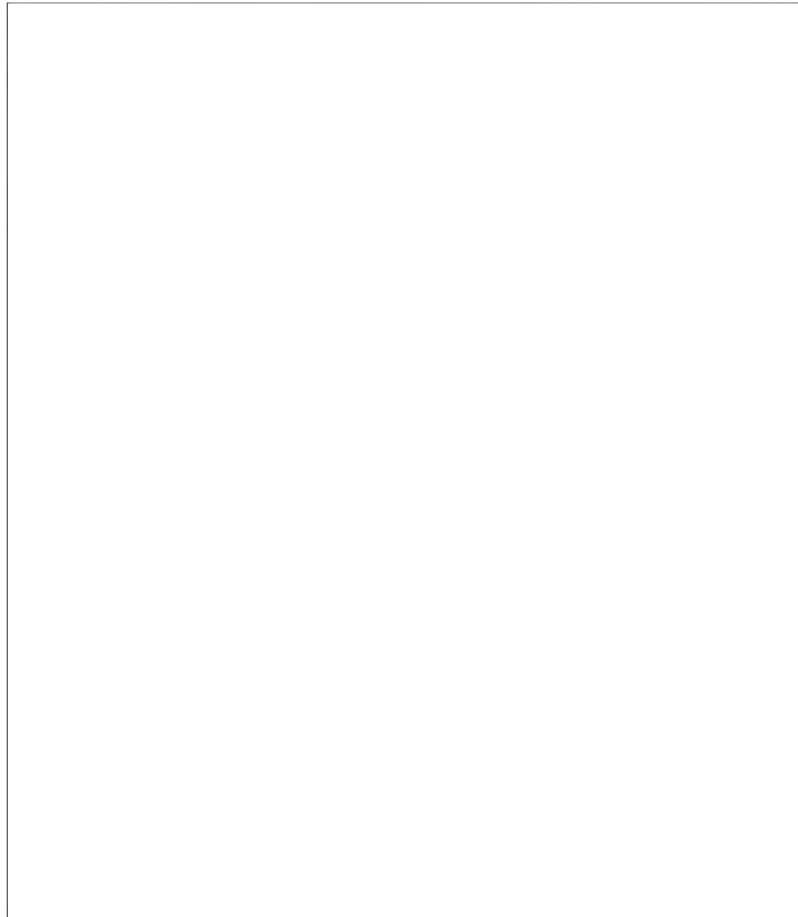
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6. Brazil

Foreign Minister Magalhaes Pinto, an opportunist who is quick to exploit anti-US sentiment, has taken it upon himself to say publicly (and in writing) that Brazil's position on Vietnam is one of "complete neutrality and abstention." This statement is at variance with the position taken privately by both the Brazilian ambassador to the US and Costa e Silva himself.

7. Bolivia



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8. Congo

Evacuation of the white mercenaries in Rwanda on a Belgian plane is apparently imminent. Our embassy in Kinshasa believes the Congolese reaction will be shrill, but limited to propaganda and diplomatic moves.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT'S EYES ONLY

Special Daily Report on North Vietnam



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Special Daily Report on North Vietnam
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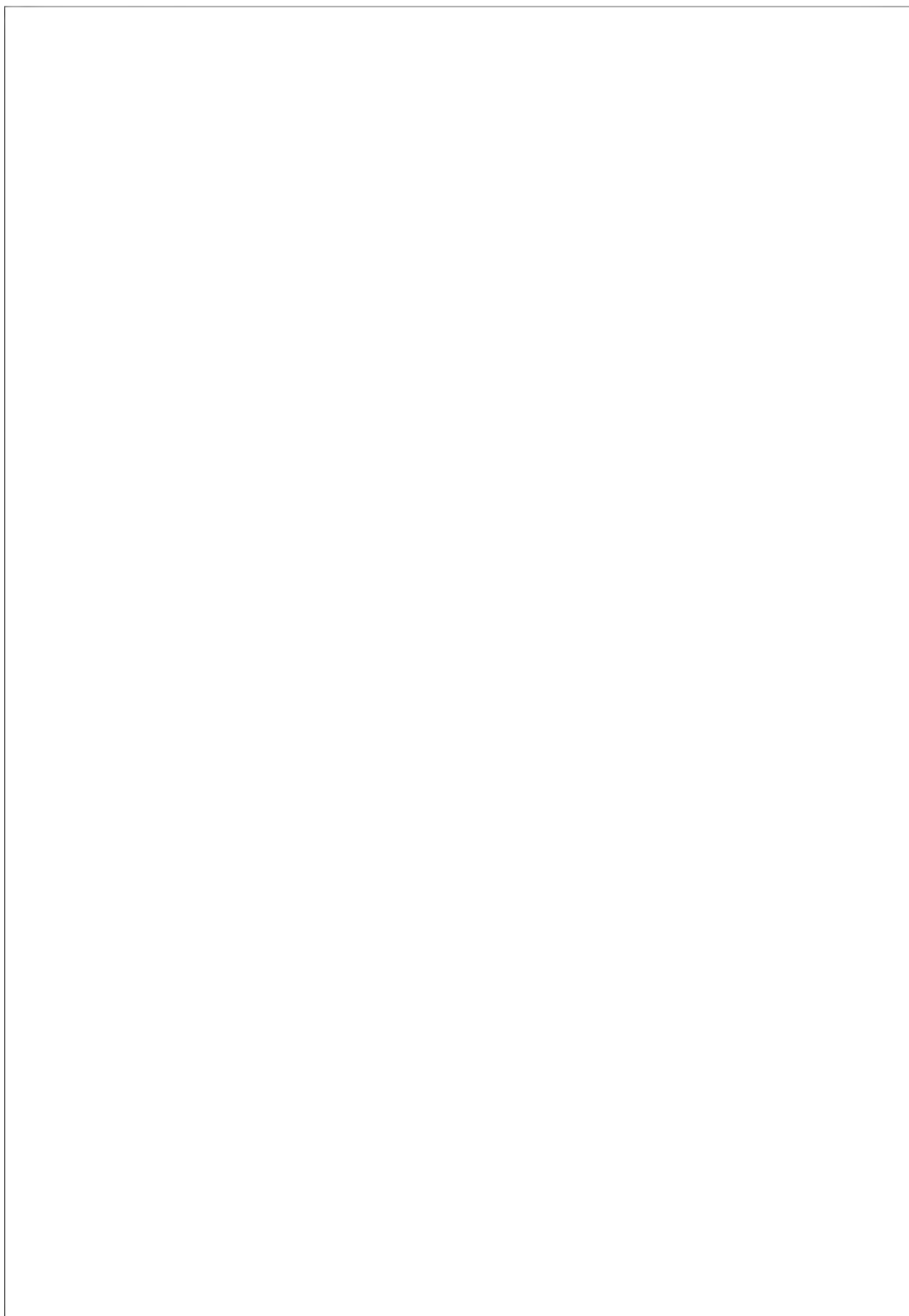
I. NOTES ON THE SITUATION

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Carmichael and De Gaulle: Carmichael is loose in Paris only because De Gaulle personally intervened. Airport police picked up the militant Negro when he arrived Tuesday. They were going to deny him entry and put him on a US-bound plane. According to a reliable source of the US Embassy, the matter was appealed to De Gaulle. The General ordered that he be released and admitted to France.

Wednesday night Carmichael repaid the General by calling him an imperialist and throwing him into the same category as the US.

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French News Agency on Current Bombing Respite:
The French news agency today broadcast a report from its correspondent in Hanoi concerning North Vietnamese exploitation of the eight-day bombing respite caused by the bad weather. The report states the last air raid alert was on 28 November.

First and foremost, the report says, the rice crop is being harvested, and preliminary estimates indicate it will be "quite good." Secondly, the respite has permitted the North Vietnamese to improve their transport and communications system. Road travel has been improved and travel time cut. Thirdly, an intensive phase of "physical and tactical training," political education, and "strengthening of morale" is said to have been instituted for self-defense units, uninterrupted by air raid alerts. The North Vietnamese are said "to have no illusions ...as soon as the sky clears, the American planes will be back to wreak new destruction. But it will have been time won, anyway."

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II. NORTH VIETNAMESE REFLECTIONS OF US POLITICAL ATTITUDES ON THE WAR

Nothing significant to report.

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